



THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB JOURNAL

June 2007  
Volume 73 Issue 6

# HL-Q



CLUB WEBSITE <http://www.larclub.net>

VE3FW—LARC call sign  
honours the memory of the  
Founding President  
P.J. "Pat" O'Shea

Inside this issue:

Last Meeting Minutes	2
Financial Report	3
Guest Speaker	3
To the Field	4
Hams on Board	5
Field Day Tips	6
On the Web	7
Notices	7
Public Service	8
Club Information	8

## June 2007 General Meeting location change

The June 14, 2006  
General Meeting  
Will be held at  
7:30pm  
At our hangar located at the  
**Thunder Bay Airport**  
Across from Thunder Bay Aviation

(Confederation College meeting room is not available)

- Next Meeting  
Thursday  
June 14, 2007  
at the LARC Hanger at the  
Thunder Bay Airport at  
7:30 pm

- FIELD DAY  
Saturday and Sunday  
June 23-24, 2007 at  
Randy VA3OJ, QTH

- Check out Northern Ontario Swap Net for buying and selling equipment !

### LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT	Mount Baldy	147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
VE3TBR	St. Joseph's	145.490 (-600) (100.0 Hz) 442.075 (+5 MHz) 144.390 APRS
VE3BGA	Hillcrest H.S.	145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz) 442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP	Upsala	145.470 (-600)



## LARC MEETING MINUTES

### May 10, 2007

Judy VA3EAP, Secretary



LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

#### Minutes of meeting May 10, 2007

Bill **VE3XT**, introduced our speaker for the evening, Doug McCormack **VE3EFC**. Doug gave a very interesting presentation on Software Defined Radio, "SDR", complete with 'hands-on' computer demonstration - COOL !!! A question and answer session followed Doug's presentation.

Meeting called to order by President Terry **VA3LU**...21 members present.

Minutes of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting as posted in Hi-Q - motion to accept Brad **VE3MXJ**, seconded by Fort **VE3MCZ** - motion carried.

Financial Report as posted in Hi-Q - motion to accept Joe **VE3TBX**, seconded by Pat **VA3PP** - motion carried.

#### Committee Reports

Public Service - 10 Mile Road Race, Norm **VE3XRC** - operators in place.

Kam River Canoe Race - Brad **VE3MXJ** working on it.

Kids of Steel - Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, Triathlon, Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Canwarn training - Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 7:30 p.m., McIntyre Bldg. Room 131

#### Old Business

Norm **VE3XRC** 'fesses-up' to erecting a new antenna AFTER Bill blew the HORN !!!

...and should there be dire consequences for this deliberant act of defiance??!

#### New Business

..details continuing for Field Day out at Randy's **VA3OJ**, last week-end in June.

50/50 draw won by Fort **VE3MCZ**

Motion to adjourn - Norm **VE3XRC**



### Last Meeting Guest Speaker

Doug McCormack, **VE3EFC**, presented a very well received program on Software Defined Radio, "SDR"

***Thanks for a nice presentation,  
Doug!***



Photo by Bill VE3XT



Joe VE3TBX

### Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurers Report

**Opening Balance - May 3rd. 2007** \$ 5,566.17

#### Income

Interest	\$	0.05
50/50 Draw	\$	8.00
Memberships	\$	105.00

**Total Income** \$ 113.05

#### Expenses

Thunder Bay Telephone Bank Service	\$	48.03
Fee	\$	1.50
CNIB Amateur Program	\$	100.00
Can Warn Train- ing	\$	27.26
Hymers Fair - Elect. Hookup	\$	20.00

**Total Expenses** \$ 196.79

**Closing Balance - May 3rd, 2007** \$ 5,482.43

**Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX**  
Treasurer

**To the Field**

- Phil VE3AXL



**N**ow, that the warm weather is here, its time to take the radios out into the field. I thought that I would pass a few ideas that have made life easier for me.

I use wire antennas and the connection of the feed line and the antenna legs can be a problem.

I use a small triangle of plastic that had the connectors of an old speaker on it. These are the lever type that compresses the wires against the sidewall. It sure makes a quick and secure connection.

The end of the feed line and the antenna leg wire are pushed into the clip and that is it.. I also have a hole on each corner and one for the feed line for strain relief. This makes things easy when your wet and cold.

My preferred feed line is twin lead or speaker wire. VE3FAL, Fred came up with a neat modified PL 259. He found a speaker clip that used a compression screw. He inserted it on a long brass bolt that he threaded down into the center pin. He mounted a screw into the ground side of the PL250 and then filled the center. Silicone would work well.

Again, quick an easy.

I use a telescoping fiberglass mast to support my antenna. In many cases it can be secured to a tree or other vertical support. I have made a stake from a 30" piece of tee mast. This is like the support used for many road signs and garden fencing.

While you can drive it into the ground with a hammer or rock there is an easier way.

I mounted a 3/8 bolt about 4 inches long up on the side of the stake about 10 inches from the bottom. I simply push the point of the stake into the ground and with my foot on the side bolt it is easy to drive the stake deeply into the ground. The mast is then secured with webbing to the stake. Caution, the stake should be painted a bright red/orange colour

A few of the guys have purchased the all in one-power packs offered by CTC. This is a good deal if you catch a sale. It makes a complete power system in a rugged case.

I have used rechargeable AA and gel cells and have carried all the chargers required.

While this pack is big, it is complete. It has the ac charger, the cigarette lighter output and charger, the led charge indicators, the automatic charge controller, and the heart of the unit is a hefty 12 ah gel cell. I picked this up for \$20. Oh I forgot, you can even boost your car battery, it has the huge clips.

These are some of the things that I have found make life easier when I take the radio to the field. Maybe you have some things that work for you that you can share with others. •

**Canwarn 2007**

Canwarn 2007 Storm Spotter Training took place on Monday, May 14th, 2007. John Sacek, VE3JMS introduced Serge Besner, an Outreach Officer for Environment Canada, from London, Ontario.

There were 22 LARC members present for the training. Canwarn is celebrating 20 years being the eyes and ears of Environment Canada and all those present received a commemorative coffee mug for their attendance at the training.

The presentation was both interesting and informative.

- Judy VA3EAP

**Get Your Hat  
for Field Day!**

Still some Available

For 10 bucks!

Joe, VE3TBX, treasurer



## Hams on Board - Judy, VA3EAP



Wayne, Dave, Michael and I were guests of Chris Innes, Petty Officer of the HMCS Halifax and we received a very "up-close and personal" tour of the ship.

More pictures will be posted on Larclub.net photos by Judy VA3EAP





## Field Day 2007

**Field Day 2007 will be at VA3OJ property on 2174 Rosslyn Road (same location as last year)**

**Starting Saturday, June 23rd through Sunday June 24th**

**For more information, contact Randy VA3OJ**

### Some Field Day Hints

#### Ticks

**When operating outdoors, ticks may be encountered in different areas:**

**Jim VE3UA sent this in:**

Easy and simple way to remove ticks:

Please forward to anyone with children... or hunters, people who do > yard work, gardeners, etc.!

A School Nurse wrote the info below -- good enough to share -- And it really works!!

I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. This is great, because it works in those places where it's sometimes difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc.

Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20), the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This technique has worked every time I've used it (and that was frequently), and it's much less traumatic for the patient and easier for me.

Unless someone is allergic to soap, I can't see that this would be damaging in any way. I even had my doctor's wife call me for advice because she had one stuck to her back and she couldn't reach it with

tweezers. She used this method and immediately called me back to say, 'It worked!'

Please pass this on ~~~ Everyone can use this helpful information.

**Phil VE3AXL suggested a web site for ticks:** <http://www.lyme.org/ticks/tick.html>



### Meet Your Executive - **Terry Stewardson VA3LU** President

#### A Bit about Terry

Terry has been licensed since 1989 and holds an Advanced Class license. He was introduced to ham radio through his brother-in-law Don VE3CAP earlier.

Terry has self taught advanced concepts and theory, learning as he experimented and researched technical manuals to complete his desired radio projects.

#### Usual Operating Modes and Favourite Frequencies

Likes the 80 meter band. Usually Hangs out around 3750 MHz 10pm to midnight on SSB.

#### Favourite part of Ham Radio

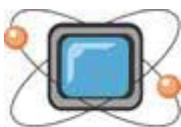
Terry prefers the technical side of repeaters, controllers, computers. Electronic repairs, packet radio, IRLP (runs out his home) are also on his list.

#### Other Hobbies

Keeping busy is no problem. Terry also enjoys woodworking, mechanical work – especially on vehicles—he has worked on race cars!



## Notices

ON THE  
WEB

thanks to  
John,  
**VE3EMI**



**Tower Collapse**  
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=GFVuUybBkRg>

**Tri Tower Take Down**  
[http://youtube.com/watch?v=\\_udwtS1QDh4](http://youtube.com/watch?v=_udwtS1QDh4)

**APRS for Dogs?**  
<http://www.garmin.com/astro/>

**vhf uhf propagation map live**  
<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>

### Northern Ontario Swap Net

<http://users.xplornet.com/~ve3pdpat/nontsale.htm>

Or use link on  
[Larclub.net](http://larclub.net)

### LARC ARES 2 Meter Net



**Every Tuesday  
at  
7:00 pm**

#### YQT OFF THE AIR

Repeater YQT 147.060 will be for down for 2 to 3 weeks due to a possible lightning hit.

Terry, VA3LU advises that the system may have to be removed to his shop for repairs and/or replacement.

In the meantime, users can use TBR or one of the other local systems.

#### COMING PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS:

##### **Grand Kam Canoe & kayak Tour**

Saturday June 30/07

##### **Kids of Steel of Triathlon**

Friday July 27/07

##### **Adult Triathlon**

Saturday July 28/07

##### **In-line Skate**

August 2007 (day not known at this time)

##### **Conquer The Dog Triathlon**

August 2007 (day not known at this time)

For the first time in the history of Radio Amateurs of Canada, plans are underway for the RAC ARES/NTS to be on the air simultaneously in every Section of the RAC Field Organization using their respective official RAC call sign.

This "first" will take place during the annual RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1, 2007, and RAC Field Services members are invited to participate.

For further information see the May/June issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine or contact your Section Manager.

### A NOTE ON VE3AJ

Just a quick note to let you know that **VE3AJ** is now in the hands of Jim Byers - **VE3TTN**. His email address is [jfbayers@gmail.com](mailto:jfbayers@gmail.com), and he has expressed an interest in hearing about the history of the call. I filled him in on a few details, but I am sure he would love to hear from other folks as well about the call. Jim was a member of the LARC in 1983-84 when he lived on Dog Lake Road. His son was born in Thunder Bay, and his initials are AJ.

Tom **VE3CX**

**Special Authorizations for Canadian Amateur Radio Experiments at 135 kHz and 5 MHz to Cease 30 June 2007.**

Since 2001, at the request of RAC, Industry Canada has granted a number of special authorizations to some Canadian radio amateurs to conduct experiments in the band 135.7 – 137.8 kHz and at 5 MHz. These experiments have had, as one objective, the provision of data that would support the objectives of RAC and the IARU for possible new allocations to the Amateur Service at these frequencies. In accordance with the agreement between RAC and Industry Canada, all the special authorizations to Canadian radio amateurs will be terminated and transmissions must cease as of 30 June, 2007. Further special authorizations will depend on the outcomes of WRC-2007, scheduled for 22 October – 16 November, at which, on the initiative of Canada, a new, worldwide, secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 135.7 – 137.8 kHz is on the agenda. A secondary allocation near 5 MHz may also arise at WRC-2007 as a consideration in the review of radio services in the band 4 – 10 MHz. Per the agreement for special authorizations, each experimenter is required to prepare a summary report of his experiments, which may be in the form of an article for TCA.

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RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

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Leo VE3ATC 939-1020

Hi-Q is published monthly on the Sunday preceding the monthly meeting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. Your submissions are welcome at any time. Submit early to ensure publication in next issue! Send to editor at [ve3atc@spruce.ca](mailto:ve3atc@spruce.ca)



LARC is a member of [RAC](#)

## LARC PUBLIC SERVICES

## ARES

## District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

## Assistant

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

## Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

## CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

## Public Service Events

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

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Accredited Examiner

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	<b>Dave Kimpton</b>	<b>VE3AVS</b>
	<b>Laurie Bridgett</b>	<b>VE3BCD</b>
	<b>Terry Stewardson</b>	<b>VA3LU</b>
	<b>Ed Baumann</b>	<b>VE3SNW</b>

<b>LARC</b>	<b>President</b>		
<b>EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>Terry Stewardson</b>	<b>VA3LU</b>	<b>577-9439</b>
<b>2006—2007</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>		
	<b>Bob Hansen</b>	<b>VE3RVA</b>	<b>767-6924</b>
	<b>Secretary</b>		
	<b>Judy Artist</b>	<b>VA3EAP</b>	
	<b>Treasurer</b>		
	<b>Joe Coghlan</b>	<b>VE3TBX</b>	<b>344-6566</b>
	<b>Directors</b>		
	<b>Brad Harris</b>	<b>VE3MXJ</b>	<b>767-0628</b>
	<b>Randy Gottfred</b>	<b>VA3OJ</b>	<b>474-0910</b>
	<b>Mike Nawrocki</b>	<b>VE3ZG</b>	<b>767-1714</b>
	<b>Bill Unger</b>	<b>VE3XT</b>	<b>344-1848</b>
	<b>Past President</b>		
	<b>John Sacek</b>	<b>VA3JMS</b>	<b>767-3631</b>

## About LARC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club members have all levels of interest and knowledge in the wide spectrum of amateur radio.

Monthly meetings and contact with other members allow us to share and discuss different ideas, and to learn from each other.

LARC membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, September through June at 7:30 PM local time at the McIntyre Building, Confederation College Room 191

Each meeting consists of a mix of technical and light-hearted topics, with a break for meeting friends and new friends.

Anyone with an interest in ham radio is invited to join us.

Amateur radio classes are also administered by LARC

to help you with your Amateur Radio License

contact any of the Executive members above for more information

**2006/2007 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION**

**LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC  
1100C MEMORIAL AVE, SUITE 184,  
THUNDER BAY, ONT P7B4A3**

**CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP**

**FULL MEMBERSHIP \$35.00-open only to licensed amateurs**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

**MAY WE PUBLISH THE PHONE NUMBER yes / no**

**MAY WE DELIVER Hi-Q BY E-MAIL? yes / no**

CALL(S) \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP-** immediate family residing at the same address holding licenses.  
\$35.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional amateur.

**NAMES AND CALLS** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP- \$15.00-open to persons enrolled full time in an education facility, list School and program** \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP-\$20.00-upon approval of the Board and open to:**

- 1) Non holders of an amateur radio license.
- 2) Licensed amateurs living outside the immediate Thunder Bay area or are unable to attend regular meetings of the club.  
If you feel you qualify for associate membership, please indicate why, on a separate sheet, to be used by the Board to consider your application.

**Please mail or bring this form to the next meeting with your cash or cheque for membership fees.**

**Cheques should be made payable to Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.**

**Applications and cheques can also be dropped off at the above address.**